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# Message Text

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46
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /077 W
---------- 104488
R 160910Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4794
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IN, NP
SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER GIRI'S INDIAN VISIT

REF: NEW DELHI 5402

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET SPOKEN DIRECTLY WITH MEMBERS OF PRIHN MINISTER GIRI'S ENTOURAGE WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM TO INDIA, OTHER SOURCES IN KATHMANDU ECHO MOOD DESCRIBED BY EMBASSY NEW DELHI REFTEL. TALKS AWTH MRS. GHANDI ARE UNIFORMLY DESCRIBED AS "FRANK AND USEFUL." ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SOME LOCAL SPECULATION AT ABSENCE OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE, WE WERE TOLD BEFORE VISIT THAT NO COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE ISSUED SINCE NO CONCRETE AGREEMENTS WERE ANTICI-PATED.

2. PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF HAS TAKEN THE LINE WITH PRESS THAT TALKS DID MUCH TO CLEAR THE ATMOSPHERE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BUT THAT TAGNIBLE RESULTS WOULD BE DEMONSTRATED IN TIME. OTHERS HAVE ALSO SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS AT HIGHEST LEVELS WERE EFFECTIVE IN "WIPING SLATE CLEAN, BUT
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IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT INDIA WILL CHOOSE TO DO."

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MFA JOINT SECRETARY SHARDUL RANA TOLD CHARGE APRIL 15
THAT SOME PREVIOUS "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" HAD BEEN REMOVED.
AS FOR AGREEMENTS ON JOINT EXPLOITATION OF NEPAL'S HYRDO-
ELECTRIC RESOURCES, RANA SAID THAT AGREEMENTS DID NOT
EXTEND BEYOND UNDERSTANDING FOR JOINT INVESTIGATION OF
POTENTIAL AND THAT HMG WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSURED OF EQUAL
SHARE OF BENEFITS BEFORE FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE
MADE.

3. COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY SECRETARY UPADHYAYA SAID THAT AS
MAN CHARGED WITH NEGOTIATING NEW TRADE AND TRANSIT
ARRANGEMENTS IN A FEW MONTHS, HE WAS PLEASED THAT VISIT
HAD STRUCK POSITIVE NOTE. HE FELT THAT FORTHCOMING NEGO-
TAITIONS WOULD BE EASIER AND SUGGESTED THAT NEW AGREEMENT
NEED NOT BE NEGOTIATED IF GOI WAS WILLING TO MODIFY
CURRENT TREATY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CONCERNS OF BOTH
GOVERNMENTS.

4. COMMENT: GIRI IS ASTUTE AND ARTICULATE POLITICIAN WHO,
AT LEAST FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT AND FROM WHAT WE READ IN
THE INDIAN PRESS, APPEARS TO BAVE ACQUITTED HIMSELF QUITE
WELL DURING HIS VISIT TO INDIA. GIRI'S "WAIT AND SEE"
ATTITUDE IS PROBABLY TYPICAL OF REACTION OF BOTH INDIAN
AND NEPALESE LEADERS WHO RECOGNIZE THAT WHILE IMPROVEMENT
IN ATMOSPHERE IS IMPORTANT, MUCH REAMINS TO BE DONE
TO IMPLEMENT A BROAD RANGE OF BILATERAL PROJECTS. PRIME
MINISTER EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT HIS PROPOSAL FOR JOINT
INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IN PAPER AND CEMENT HAD BEEN
FAVORABLY RECEIVED. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, SPECULATE ON
INDIAN REACTION TO ZONE OF PEACE PROPOSAL WHICH, WE
UNDERSTAND, CONTINUES TO BE REJECTED BY INDIA. EAVES

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# Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, IN, NP, (GIRI, TULSI)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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